

State Workforce Innovation Council
Educational Review Committee
Illinois Fall Creek Center – Laiken Community Room 102
(Ivy Tech Community College)
50 W. Fall Creek Parkway, North Drive, Indianapolis
March 1, 2012
8:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Present: Dan Clark, James Dunn, Sandy Hartz, Leroy Jackson Jr., Teresa Lubbers, Rebecca Nickoli, Derek Redelman, and Dennis Rohrs

Absent: Debra Williams

Also Present: From the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD): Dr. Gina DelSanto, Jackie Dowd, Marie Mackintosh, Brenda Johnson, Chris Deaton, Megan Baker, Amanda Brewer and Donna Lovelady

The meeting was called to order by Dan Clark, at 8:10 a.m. A quorum was present to conduct committee business.

There were no public comments.

The December 15, 2011 meeting minutes (Handout #1) were presented for approval. Motion to approve was made by Leroy Jackson; seconded by Derek Redelman. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

IN Training

Brenda Johnson presented the IN Training Program Monthly Activity Report. (Handout #2) Next, she shared the results of the provider site visit at Industrial Training Solutions in Fort Wayne (Handout #3) and asked that this provider be considered for approval by the committee. Derek Redelman moved to follow the DWD recommendation to approve and Rebecca Nickoli seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Discussion

Marie Mackintosh stated that the subsequent eligibility list is going into effect soon. Future criteria for approval will be considered. Brenda Johnson said that current information indicates that several programs may come off the list due to not meeting the 35% completion rate requirement. Additional analysis will be available in upcoming meetings of this committee.

Change to Adult Education (AE) Program Standards Policy (Handout #4)

Jackie Dowd presented the AE Program Standards Policy change. The main point dealt with GED testing, which is now stated in policy as follows: “Individuals who are between sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) years of age must have the superintendent’s signature to take the GED Tests in accordance with IC 22-4.1-18.”

Discussion

The Exit form used by school principals includes a space for the superintendent’s signature if the student intends to take the GED Tests.

Teresa Lubbers asked about statistics of those withdrawing in order to take the GED Tests.

Jackie Dowd responded that the new tracking system (INTERs) will provide updated information. She hopes to share specific numbers at The next ERC meeting on March 15, 2012.

Sandy Hartz commented on the frustration she observes when students are already falling behind on credits in their freshmen year and sees the benefit in offering credit recovery.

Dan Clark spoke about alternative programs that allow students either fast-track or have extra time to earn their high school diploma, especially for those who work part-time. He noted that student work permits and driver’s licenses are incentives to stay in school. Marie Mackintosh indicated that AE program directors have reported that requiring the superintendent’s signature before leaving school to take the GED Tests has reduced participation of sixteen and seventeen year olds.

Career and Technical Education/Post-Secondary Application (Handout #5)

Chris Deaton presented information on the *2012-13 Post-Secondary Perkins Local Application*. (Handout #6—PowerPoint presentation)

Discussion

In discussing the meaning of “placements”, Derek Redelman suggested that our expectations be higher than required by Perkins to align with the needs of employers. According to Perkins’ standards, placement means a student gets (or keeps) a job.

Gina DelSanto emphasized that we want to return to the original intent of Perkins being for first-time post-secondary students who were in CTE programs in high school. At this time, our numbers include any students not taking General Studies or Liberal Arts in post-secondary institutions.

The committee next discussed the Approved Cluster Areas (Handout #6—PowerPoint presentation, page 5). Concerns were raised regarding the exclusion of Agriculture studies. Chris Deaton said that some components of Agriculture studies can be moved to Approved Cluster Areas. Additionally, Gina DelSanto indicated that in meetings with Ivy Tech Community College, Vincennes University, and through a discussion with the Indiana Farm Bureau, the number of those pursuing an Associate’s degree or higher did not warrant inclusion on the list at present.

DWD is proposing changes to the State Performance Stipulations (Handout #6—PowerPoint presentation, pages 7, 8). Suggestions were posited for other ways to handle programs that fail to meet performance goals: probationary period, loss of funding (in part or in whole). Will the focus be on accountability for failure or opportunity to improve?

Chris Deaton stated that the biggest change for the field in the proposed application will be in defining who is a CTE student: must be enrolled in a secondary CTE Approved Cluster Areas the year prior to being in that area in post-secondary CTE. Teresa Lubbers said this enables us to focus limited resources on the Perkins target population and find other means to help students outside these parameters.

Gina DelSanto reminded the committee that the approval process does not need to be rushed if members need more time to review. Derek Redelman requested review of program changes during the year.

Teresa Lubbers moved to approve the proposal with the understanding that changes can be made in the future. Leroy Jackson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

GED+ Summit

Marie Mackintosh reported that the GED+ Summit will be held March 7, 2012. This meeting with all regional stakeholders will review the first year of the program.

Funding Formula for Adult Education (AE) (Handouts #7 and #8)

Jackie Dowd presented this information as preparation for a vote at the March 15, 2012 ERC meeting. Ms. Dowd summarized the move of Adult Education from the Indiana Department of Education to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. Adult Education also shifted to a regional delivery platform. AE programs are now in the final year of a three year grant continuation cycle. After looking at the needs and performance of the eleven AE regions, the analysis shows the anticipated changes in regional funding for the coming year.

Discussion

What happens to performance dollars that are not earned this year? Jackie Dowd said that money is rolled over to the next year. Gina DelSanto mentioned the possibility of an innovation fund to target problem areas, or provide support for creative improvements to programs.

After discussion ended, James Dunn moved that the meeting be adjourned. Derek Redelman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.